

To: House Members and Staff

From: Speaker David Ralston

For planning purposes, please familiarize yourself with the following information regarding Session proceedings as we start the new year. As always please monitor your emails and the House website for any announcements regarding updates and advisories on operating procedures.

NOTE: THE HOUSE WILL CONVENE AT 8:30 AM ON LEGISLATIVE DAY 1.

Legislative Calendar:

| | | |
|------------|------|--|
| January 10 | LD 1 | <u>8:30 AM</u> Convene, Covid Test Day |
| January 11 | | Recess Day |
| January 12 | LD 2 | <u>11:00 AM</u> Convene |
| January 13 | LD 3 | TBD, Covid Test Day, Vaccine Event |
| January 14 | LD 4 | TBD |

| | | |
|---------------|---|----------------|
| January 17-21 | Recess Days, MLK Holiday, Committee Work Days | |
| January 18-20 | Joint Appropriations Hearings, Capitol Room 341/live stream | |
| January 18 | | Covid Test Day |
| January 20 | | Covid Test Day |

| | | |
|------------|------|---------------------|
| January 24 | LD 5 | TBD, Covid Test Day |
| January 25 | LD 6 | TBD |
| January 26 | LD 7 | TBD |

Key Dates:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| January 13 | Governor Kemp State of State Address, House Chamber, 11:00 AM |
| January 18-20 | Joint Appropriations Hearings, Capitol Room 341 |

Seating: Seating in the House will be the same as the Special Session **for the first week only**. New seating assignments will be made and will become effective on Monday, January 24th.

Offices: Due to resignations and to changes that will be made to a few committee chairmanships, **office assignments will also remain the same for the first week of Session**. New office assignments will be made so that any necessary moving can take place during the recess week.

Covid-19 Testing Updates: Testing will now take place twice a week at the Capitol. Testing will normally be on Monday and Thursday, other than the second week of session when testing will occur on Tuesday and Thursday because of Martin Luther King Jr Day.

Testing prior to Monday if you were not able to test with Georgia Tech on January 5th: We know that it may be hard to find a test with results that would be returned before Monday morning. Because of the above mentioned schedule of session events, you are not required to have a negative test prior to coming to the Capitol, if you are not able to arrange a test prior to Monday. You can test with Georgia Tech on Monday and then leave if you did not test yesterday and are not able to arrange a test prior to Monday. If you did not test yesterday and will not be at the Capitol to test on Monday, please test elsewhere prior to your return to the Capitol.

Updated Covid-19 CDC Guidelines: You can find the updated guidelines on quarantine and isolation after a positive test result at this link. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

General Reminders

- Chaplain of the Day: The Speaker asks that members please take their seats after the Pledge of Allegiance and not greet the Chaplain.
- Morning Orders- There will be no morning orders on Day 1. Beginning Day 2, pursuant to Rule 40, there will be a limit of 20 minutes for morning orders. Only one member may speak to each morning order. If a member's seat is in the House Gallery, they must take a seat in a chair in the front of the chamber. Members must see the Messenger, Betsy Theroux, on the floor at least one hour before the start of session to sign up. You may also email Betsy at betsy.theroux@house.ga.gov
- Speaking to a Bill: The member must notify the House Messenger, as quickly as possible to notify her of the intent to speak to a bill. Member will be notified by staff when they need to report to the House Chamber to speak from the well, if their seat is not in the chamber.
- Access to the Floor: Members will still have access to the floor to discuss legislative business, but they are strongly encouraged to minimize time on the floor and maintain the required social distancing. The area in the hall outside of the House Chamber and Gallery is reserved for members and staff only, so please use that space.
- Hallway outside the Chamber: This area is reserved for members and authorized staff only. There will be televisions streaming the House feed. This space is reserved for members to converse with other members as needed. There will be no public access.
- South Anteroom- There will be no public access, i.e. no photos with guests
- North Anteroom- There will be bottled/canned drink, single serve coffee and individually wrapped and single served snacks available. Members who have an assigned seat on the House Floor should access through the Chamber. Members assigned a seat in the House Gallery should use the entrance from the hallway.
- Dress code for the House floor is professional business attire (no jeans). Men should wear coat and tie and women should be dressed in professional attire.
- During the morning devotional, do not text on your phone or use your computer. It is disrespectful to the chaplain of the day. Please be mindful that the press is able to view your actions.
- Guests will be extremely limited and only granted in certain circumstances approved by the Speaker. Each guest must have a floor pass issued by the Speaker's Office. This is a temporary pass and your guest's time on the floor should be limited. Also, please remind your guest of the House dress code so they can dress appropriately.
- Aides/support staff who are not employed by the House shall not be stationed in House office space and are not eligible to participate in the COVID testing program.
- **You are to vote your own voting machine, per House Rule 135. No other member should vote in your absence.**